

News Release

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge

P.O. Box 62

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Date: August 26, 2009

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ANNUAL BEACH CLEANUP SLATED FOR SEPTEMBER 19, 2009

Refuge Manager Lou Hinds invites you join to refuge staff and volunteers on Saturday, September 19th for the Annual Beach Cleanup at the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. Registration will begin at 9:00 am in the Hebert H. Bateman Educational and Administrative Parking lot.

The annual beach cleanup is part of the International Coastal Cleanup sponsored by The Ocean Conservancy and Virginia Clean Waterways. All litter in our waterways is harmful to wildlife, habitat, or human health and welfare. In one day at the beach, you can make a difference. Anyone can participate; it doesn't take special skills or knowledge, just the desire to further the cause of clean oceans and waterways. Not only will you remove trash from the beach, you will also record what you find and identify the sources that caused the debris. The Ocean Conservancy will use this information to educate the public and to help change the behaviors that cause pollution.

Save the date! September 19, 2009. We hope you'll join us. Be sure to bring water, sunscreen, and wear comfortable footwear. Trash bags, gloves, and data sheets will be provided. Participants will receive a free T-shirt and the entrance fee will be waived. Please inform the fee collector upon arrival that you are participating in the beach cleanup.

This year's beach cleanup is sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, The Ocean Conservancy, Virginia Clean Waterways, Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, Chincoteague Natural History Association, Assateague Island National Seashore, Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce, Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company, Town of Chincoteague, and Accomack County.

For more information contact the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge at 757-336-6122.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.

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